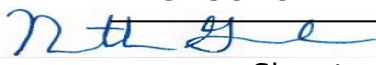
	LOS LUNAS POLICE DEPARTMENT		
	OPERATIONS	NUMBER: OPR.06.05	EFFECTIVE DATE: September 3, 2010
	SUBJECT: Special Operations / Search & Rescue		REVIEW DATE: February 9, 2017
	AMENDS/ SUPERSEDES:	NMSA:	
NMMLEPSC STANDARDS: OPR.06.05		APPROVED BY CHIEF OF POLICE NAITHAN G. GURULE  Signature	

I. DEFINITION:

A missing person is one who, not being the subject of a lawful commitment order, is absent from his/her normal haunts in breach of the reasonable expectations and/or responsibilities of another by reason of abduction, altered state of consciousness or voluntary decision, and whose location is either not known or, if known, who is illegally detained.

II. POLICY:

To insure that all citizens regardless of age, creed, color, religion, sexual orientation, that are missing and fall under one of the following categories: lost person of sound mind, lost person of confused mind, abducted person, absent friend, runaway from unsatisfactory non-domestic situation, institutional absconder; officers shall, with supervisor approval, take prudent measures as needed, and use resources as needed, to search for and rescue the individual.

III. PURPOSE:

To establish guidelines which describe the investigation of a missing person and make appropriate entries into NCIC.

IV. PROCEDURE:

- A. No waiting period exists before taking a missing person report. Further, the initial report may be taken in person or by telephone.

- B. A person is considered missing when his whereabouts is unknown and knowledgeable persons regard the disappearance as unusual or uncharacteristic.
- C. The missing person report may be deemed critical if the officer taking the report has reason to suspect the following:
 - 1. Foul play or suspicious circumstances.
 - 2. The missing person may be unable to safeguard or look out for him or herself, regardless of age.
 - 3. A risk of suicide.
 - 4. A risk of accident (for example while swimming.
 - 5. The missing person is a mental patient who may endanger him or herself or others.
 - 6. The missing person suffers from a physical or mental incapacity that may be life threatening if not under care.
- D. A report of a missing juvenile should not be assumed to be a runaway unless the investigation yields this finding.

V. PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION:

- A. The officer or other report taker shall gather the following information for every missing persons report.
 - 1. Name, age, physical description or missing person.
 - 2. Relationship of reporting party to the missing person.
 - 3. Time and place of the missing person's last known location and the identity of anyone in the missing person's company.
 - 4. Behavior of the missing person, including whether the person has gone missing before, and relevant habits or patterns.
 - 5. Recent history of problems or trauma such as illness,

domestic violence, substance abuse, history or mental illness, use of prescription drugs.

6. Extent of any search for the missing person.

7. Indications of missing money or belongings.

B.—The officer will ~~contact “A Child Is Missing” see (OPR. 06.05B)~~ follow the appropriate Missing Person Alert guideline. See OPR.0605 (B) (revised 02/09/17).

VI. FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION:

A. Following the preliminary missing person report, the supervisor may direct a search, if necessary. A follow up inquiry includes the following steps.

1. If the preliminary missing person is a child, with a parent’s permission and under their supervision, search the child’s home, as appropriate.

2. Obtain fingerprints and dental records.

3. Contact the medical examiner’s officer and local hospitals for injured or deceased persons meeting the description of the missing.

4. Contact interviews with persons who were in the area where the missing person was last seen, or who may work in or frequent the area.

5. Conduct interview with co-workers, family, friends, schoolmates, teachers, counselors, social case workers, or others to help determine whether the missing person might have left voluntarily or was coerced.

6. If abduction of a child by a stranger is suspected, ~~contact the FBI.~~ Follow the Amber Alert Operational Guidelines listed in OPR.06.05 (B) (revised 02/09/17).

VII. CASE CLOSURE:

A. If a competent adult missing person is located, officers shall advise the person that he or she was the subject of a

missing person investigation and

1. Ascertain if the person wishes his or her family or the reporting party to be notified of his or her whereabouts.
 2. Arrange to notify the reporting party of family member, if permitted.
- B. Officer shall inform the reporting party of the well-being of the person had been reported missing unless the law compels another course of action, the department shall comply with the located person's wishes not to make his or her whereabouts known.
- C. Before closing a missing person case, the officer shall question the located person to establish the circumstances and to ensure that no criminality was involved.

VIII. REPORTS:

- A. A missing person report is retained indefinitely until the complaint cancels or clears the record or until the missing person clears the record or until the missing person has been located.
- B. If the missing person is a juvenile, the record shall be maintained until cleared, cancelled, the child had been located, or until the child reaches eighteen (18) years of age.

IX. CHILDREN: Refer to Missing Children OPR.06.05 (C)

- ~~A. If the missing person is a child, in addition to the questions outlined above, the officer or report taker must ascertain if the child:-~~
- ~~1. — May be with an adult who might harm him or her.~~
 - ~~2. — May have been abducted by a parent.~~
 - ~~3. — Has previously run away, threatened to do so or has had inexplicable absences or~~
 - ~~4. — May be living under abusive or dysfunctional~~

~~conditions.~~

- ~~B. A search for the child shall examine the local neighborhood with special references to friend, houses, libraries, banks, local stores, or parks.~~
- ~~C. Within thirty (30) days, notify the state registrar.~~
- ~~D. Ascertain the name and location of the school the child attends and identifying information on anyone who may be responsible for private transportation to and from the school.~~
- ~~E. With the permission of school authorities and in their presence, search the child's locker.~~
- ~~F. Complete Locator Poster through NCMEC.~~

~~X. CASE CLOSURE:~~

- ~~—— A. When a missing child has been located, officers shall ensure that medical care is provided immediately as appropriate.~~
- ~~—— B. Question the child about the circumstances of his or her disappearance and identify any person who may be criminally responsible or whether an abusive or negligent home environment contributed to the child's disappearance.~~

~~XI. Documentation Requirements:~~

- ~~—— A. Officers shall complete the department's missing persons report and forward such information to the DPS clearinghouse.~~